ROCK RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 283 Dixon, Illinois 61021

AN ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB

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June 1, 1998

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RM 9267

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioners:

I strongly oppose the RM-9267 petition. This petition would severely curtail and jeopardize the operation of Amateur Radio operators on the 70 cm. Amateur Radio Band.

I am sure the Commission is already familiar with the public service endeavors performed by Amateurs. Any restriction of the Amateur 70 cm. Band would place an undue hardship on these activities.

I can take my own personnel experience as an example. The Rock River ARC uses a 70 cm. repeater for its main communications with its members. This repeater was built and improved over a number of years with the skills and financial resources of its members. Taking an inventory of my own radio equipment I find I have five radios and antennas that cover the 70 cm. Amateur Radio Band. To me this is a serious investment and commitment. I am also active in the local weather spotter Skywarn program. Although a 2 meter repeater is used for this activity, a 70 cm. link is used between transmitter and receiver sites.

As you well know, Amateur Radio is a non-profit activity. Thousands of "Hams" like myself have spent considerable time and money to provide emergency communications and increase overall 70 cm. communications knowledge. To me it does not seem prudent to even consider the elimination or alteration of the Amateur 70 cm. Band. Thank you for your consideration is this matter.

Sincerely yours,

James O. Conrad, W8MQ
President, R.R. ARC

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